

About Camp Echo Bridge

The Newton Parks & Recreation Department is working with the Newton School Department on offering an exciting inclusive summer program that focuses on fun while bridging recreation and academics.

Camp Goals

- To provide a positive recreational experience that fosters friendship and fun
- To teach lifelong leisure skills
- To help prevent academic regression over the summer months by providing academics through fun teaching methods
- To promote a greater degree of independence
- To meet the individual needs of our campers

Camp Programming

Theme-Based Weeks, Sports, Games, Arts & Crafts, Nature, Music, Speech Therapy, Functional Math & Language, Swimming at Crystal Lake, Special Events, Field Trips & Camp Show

Field Trips & Special Events:

CIT's will participate in field trips and special events while at camp to gain first hand experience in planning these events, as well as the policies and procedures involved. Each week of camp has a theme and a related special event or field trips will take place. Field trip locations or special events may include some of the following:

- Charles River Boat Cruise
- Camp Carnival
- Field Day
- Sports Fest

CIT Residential Camping Week

The Camp Echo Bridge residential camping week has been a fun and unique part of camp for over 30 years. For the past four year's we expanded this opportunity to include our CIT's and it has been a great success. We are delighted to announce that we are returning to Club Getaway in the Berkshire Mountains of Kent, Connecticut. This Sports & Adventure Resort is loaded with fun activities and it will truly be a memorable way to end our CIT's summer. This week will provide an opportunity for the CIT's to have fun, make friends and further develop the skills they learned during their day camp experience. All meals, transportation and supervision included. Program includes hiking, campfires, adventure activities, evening entertainment, sports, dance parties, arts/ crafts, swimming, and water sports. More information about Club Getaway can be found online at clubgetaway.com/kids.

Eligibility is based on the CIT's day camp experience and space. Payment is separate for this trip and is not due until August

Dates for the Residential Week:
August 10 – August 14, 2015

Tuition:
\$600 (Resident)
\$650 (Non-Resident)



Camp Echo Bridge 2015



Counselor In Training Leadership Initiative

Sponsored by
Newton Parks & Recreation

Setti D. Warren, Mayor
Robert J. DeRubeis, Commissioner
Mark Kelly & Karen Peirce
Directors of Special Needs

124 Vernon Street
Newton, MA 02458
617-796-1527
www.newtonma.gov/gov/parks



Who can be a CIT?

CIT's are boys and girls who are 13 to 15 years old and will be entering 8th, 9th, or 10th grade in the fall. This is a great program for individuals who may feel they are too old to be a camper but not yet old enough or experienced enough to become a counselor. This is an apprenticeship program where participants learn by doing. CIT's have daily leadership training sessions and also work directly with the campers and staff at camp.

Returning CIT program: This is a three week program for individuals who have previously completed a session of CIT training at Camp Echo Bridge. This program is for individuals who are interested in expanding their skills and involvement in camp.

What does a CIT do?

The CIT Leadership Initiative at Camp Echo Bridge is designed to teach important skills inherent to becoming a camp counselor. The program also helps CIT's understand the importance of inclusive programming and respecting and embracing individual differences.

New CIT's participate in a two week training session. Each session will include instruction, observation, and activities that will focus on developing the skills necessary to become a great camp counselor. Meetings and training sessions with the CIT Director will take place to help CIT's to further develop their camp counselor skills. CIT's will also work with camper groups throughout the session to further develop their skills.

Returning CIT's will join us for a three week session in which they will continue to gain leadership experience working with campers and staff. They will help plan activities and special events and be role models for campers as well as new CIT's.

What are the Advantages of Being a CIT?

- Gain experience and have fun working with children
- Gain leadership & activity planning skills
- Gain valuable work experience
- Personal development
- Explore future career possibilities
- Learn about disabilities and how to work with children with disabilities
- Opportunity for future employment at camp as a paid counselor

Dates:

The Counselor in Training Program will run from June 29 – August 7, 2015. CIT's can sign up for one session per summer. Registration begins on Sunday, January 25, 2015 and continues until the program fills.

First Year CITs – 2 week sessions

Session 1: July 6 – July 17
Session 2: July 27 – Aug 7

Returning CITs – 3 week sessions

Session 1: June 29 – July 17
Session 2: July 20 – Aug 7

Cost of the Program:

Residents - \$275.00 per session
Non Residents - \$300.00 per session

CIT Camping Week \$600 Resident
 \$650 Non-Res.

A \$60 per session non refundable deposit must be submitted with the registration. Final payments are due May 15, 2015. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed for registrations and payments received after May 15, 2015.

Staff:

The staff consists of the Director of Special Needs, CIT Director, Camp Directors, 3 Teachers from the Newton Public School System, Unit Leaders, and Counselors. We recognize the importance of mature and qualified staff and have selected staff based on their enthusiasm, dedication, and experience. Staff is certified in CPR & First Aid.

The staff and the program meet the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Camping standards and the Newton Health Department licenses the program. Parents may request, in writing, copies of any and all camp policies.

What to bring to camp:

CIT's should wear comfortable appropriate clothing including sneakers and socks. They should bring a bathing suit and towel each day as we swim at Crystal Lake and water play at camp is utilized on very hot days as well. CIT's should also have sunscreen and a water bottle in their backpack. Lunch and snacks should be brought from home and will be kept refrigerated at camp.

CIT T-shirts:

All CIT's will receive two Camp Echo Bridge CIT T-shirts that they should expect to wear each day.

Location and Facilities:

The Counselor in Training Leadership Initiative will be conducted at Camp Echo Bridge at Mason Rice School. It is located at 149 Pleasant Street Newton, MA 02459. The school is centrally located in Newton and is a great place for summer camp. We will walk to Crystal Lake for swimming on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.